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PATENT APPLICATION

#17/A
10-12-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Keiji OTAKI, Yuki Yoshi SHINOBU
and Yoshiyuki HARADA

Application No.: US National Stage of PCT/JP00/06315

Filed: May 14, 2001

Docket No.: 109508

For: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING GLASS FIBERS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 8 as follows:

8. (Amended) The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 4,
wherein
a difference in the diameter between at least two types of orifices each having
different diameter is in a range of from 0.02 to 0.3 mm.

Please add new claims 9-11 as follows:

--9. The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 5, wherein
a difference in the diameter between at least two types of orifices each having
different diameter is in a range of from 0.02 to 0.3 mm.--